K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Proposals for import of technologies for commercial production of solar cells using crystaline silicon were under the consideration of Government. In this regard in 1986, the Government examined the technologies of solar cells using crystaline silicon, which have been established for commercial production only and noted that the production technologies at Central Electronics Ltd. (CEL) and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) were comparable with similar proven technology elsewhere in the world. Hence import of comparable technology to produce silicon solar cells is not being allowed.

Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL) of Ministry of Defence had developed silicon solar cells in late 60s, for which import substitution award was given by National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) in December 1969. Silicon solar cell arrays consisting of approximately 180 cells were made for powering transreceiver sets. This technology of the silicon solar cells was referred to NRDC in 1971 but there was little response from entrepreneurs.

(c) Does not arise.

Area of Exclusive Economic Zone of India

1901. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total area of Exclusive Economic Zone of India in the Indian Ocean and total area of sea surrounding India;

(b) what is the target of fish harvest during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) what is the target of polymetallic nodules to be exploited during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) whether the work in this regard is going on as per schedules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The total area of Exclusive Economic Zone of India is 2.02 million sq. km. and that of the Indian Ocean is 73.6 million sq. km.

(b) The target of fish harvest for the Seventh Plan is 3.4 million tonnes consisting of 2.0 million tonnes of marine fish and 1.4 million tonnes of inland fish.

(c) During the Seventh Five Year Plan, in the area of polymetallic nodules, work will be confined to extensive survey and exploration and research and development work on extractive metallurgy and environmental studies on mining.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Per capita income fixed for deciding the poverty line

1902. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per-capita income fixed for deciding the poverty line and in which year this was fixed; and

(b) whether there is a proposal to revise the level of per-capita income fixed for deciding the poverty line considering the revised value of the Rupee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) In the absence of income distribution statistics, the poverty line is fixed on the basis of per capita monthly expenditure.